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APPLICATION
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AUTOMOTIVE KNUCKLE
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DEBURRING METHOD AND AUTOMOTIVE KNUCKLE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a deburring method for
5 removing a burr formed at an open end portion of a through hole,
and to a deburred automotive knuckle.

Hitherto, as disclosed in the Unexamined Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-80307 and the Examined Japanese Patent Application Publication No. Hei7-117548, a
10 wheel speed sensor of an automobile has been fixedly mounted therein in a radial direction with respect to an axle.

When this wheel speed sensor is attached to an automotive knuckle, a through hole is drilled toward an inner surface of a fitting hole, into which a wheel bearing is fitted, from a
15 radially outward direction. The wheel speed sensor is fixedly attached thereto from this through hole.

However, when the through hole is drilled in the inner surface of the fitting hole provided in the knuckle, a burr occurs on the inner surface portion of the fitting hole, which
20 is an open end portion of the through hole. To remove the burr, the following manual processing is performed. That is, first, a special tool having a cutting part is carefully inserted into the through hole from the outside thereof. When the cutting part is projected into the fitting hole from the open end portion
25 of the through hole, the cutting part is outthrust in such a

way as to abut against the open end portion of the through hole. Then, the cutting part is rotated to thereby remove the burr. Upon completion of deburring, the tool having the cutting part is returned to a central portion of the through hole. Finally, 5 the tool is drawn out of the through hole.

An operation of performing processing by using such a special tool is troublesome. Moreover, even an operation of setting the tool at an object to be processed requires high precision, because the tool is advanced and retreated through 10 the through hole.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the invention is to provide a deburring method of removing a burr formed at an open end portion of a through hole without performing a troublesome operation of advancing 15 and retreating a special tool from the outside of the through hole.

To solve the problems, according to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a deburring method, which comprises 20 the steps of inserting a cutting tool, which has a diameter being larger than that of the through hole and also has a cutting part that has a hemispherical leading end portion, into an open end portion of a through hole of an object, which is to be processed, at an angle at which the tool does not touch the remaining part 25 of the object, and removing a burr formed at the open end portion

of the through hole by rotating the cutting tool while simultaneously making the leading end portion of the cutting tool obliquely abut against the open end portion of the through hole.

5 Further, according to a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a deburring method for removing a burr formed at an open end portion of a through hole that is opened to an inner surface of a fitting hole formed in an automotive knuckle so that a wheel bearing is fitted into the fitting hole. This
10 deburring method comprises the steps of inserting a cutting tool, which has a diameter being larger than that of the through hole and also has a cutting part that has a hemispherical leading end portion, into an open end portion of a through hole of an object, which is to be processed, at an angle at which the tool
15 does not touch the remaining part of the knuckle, and removing the burr by rotating the cutting tool while simultaneously making the leading end portion of the cutting tool obliquely abut against the open end portion of the through hole.

According to a third aspect of the invention, there is
20 provided an automotive knuckle having a fitting hole to which a wheel bearing is fitted. This automotive knuckle comprises a through hole opened in an inner surface of the fitting hole. In this knuckle, an open end portion of the through hole is deburred by inserting a cutting tool, which has a diameter being
25 larger than that of the through hole and also has a cutting

part that has a hemispherical leading end portion, thereinto at an angle at which the tool does not touch the remaining part of the knuckle. A burr formed at the open end portion of the through hole is removed by rotating the cutting tool while 5 simultaneously making the leading end portion of the cutting tool obliquely abut against the open end portion of the through hole. The contour of the open end portion is shaped nearly like an ellipsoid having a major axis and a minor axis.

According to the first, the second and the third aspects 10 of the invention, deburring can be achieved only by using a cutting tool having a cutting part, whose leading end portion is hemispherical, without using a special tool similarly as the related art does. Further, the positioning of the cutting tool can easily be achieved only by setting the hemispherical 15 leading end portion of the cutting tool at an angle at which the cutting tool does not touch the remaining unprocessed part of the knuckle that is an object to be processed. Thus, automatic processing by a machine is enabled.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a plan view illustrating a knuckle according to an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a sectional view taken on line II-II of FIG. 1.

25 FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken on line III-III of FIG.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Hereinafter, an embodiment of the invention is described
5 in detail with reference to FIGS. 1 to 3.

FIG. 1 shows an automotive knuckle 1 according to an embodiment of the invention. A fitting hole 2, to which a wheel bearing (for example, a ball bearing) is fitted, is constituted by a cylindrical concave portion, and is provided in the central portion of the knuckle 1.
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Cutting, such as finish boring, is performed on the knuckle 1 after cast processing thereof.

The fitting hole 2 of the knuckle 1 consists of a cylindrical inner surface 4, which is fitted onto the ball bearing that
15 is a wheel bearing, and of a bottom portion 6. The ball bearing is put on a ring-like step portion 5 provided in the vicinity of the bottom portion 6.

A through hole 3 is provided in such a way as to be opened in an inner surface 4 of the fitting hole 2 and as to be passed
20 through the knuckle from an outer surface of the knuckle 1. Because the through hole 3 is provided perpendicularly to the inner surface 4 of the fitting hole 2, boring cannot be performed with a drill from the inner surface 4. Therefore, the boring is performed from the outer surface of the knuckle 1. Thus,
25 a burr is produced on the inner surface 4 of the fitting hole

2 by boring.

A cutting tool, which has a diameter being larger than that of the through hole 3 and also has a hemispherical cutting part provided at a leading end thereof, for example, a ball end mill 9 is made to obliquely go into the fitting hole of the knuckle 1, which is an object to be processed, at an angle of, for instance, 45°. Then, the leading end portion of the ball end mill 9 is made to abut against an open end portion 7 of the through hole 3. Moreover, deburring (or cutting) is performed by rotating the ball end mill 9. In this embodiment, when an entrance angle, at which the ball end mill 9 goes into the fitting hole, is, for example, 45°, the entire peripheral edge part of the open end portion 7 can reliably be deburred without contact of the ball end mill 9 with the through hole 3 except the open end portion 7 thereof.

The leading end portion of the ball end mill 7 is hemispherically shaped and has a cutting part. The diameter of the ball end mill 7 is larger than that of the through hole 3. Thus, even when the entrance angle is 45°, the deburring of the peripheral part of the open end portion of the through hole 3 can be performed.

Because the inner surface 4 of the fitting hole 2 of the knuckle 1 is cylindrical, the contour of a deburred open end portion 8 of the through hole 3 has an ellipsoidal shape whose transverse axis is longer than the longitudinal axis thereof,

as illustrated in FIG. 3, when viewed from the front of the knuckle 1.

Upon completion of deburring by using the ball end mill 9, a wheel speed sensor 10 is fixedly attached to the through 5 hole 3, as shown in FIG. 2.

Incidentally, the invention is not limited to this embodiment. Various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

For example, although the fitting hole 2 of the knuckle 10 1 of the aforementioned embodiment has the bottom portion 6 and is a concave part, the fitting hole may be passed through the knuckle 1 to the back surface thereof.

Further, the shape of the inner surface of the fitting hole is not limited to the cylindrical one. The inner surface 15 of the fitting hole may have any shape as long as the inner surface thereof is a surface to be processed, which is caved in like a bag similarly to the inner surface 4 of the fitting hole 2 of the knuckle 1. Even when the object to be processed is another kind of an object provided with a through hole having 20 an open end portion, to which deburring cannot be performed perpendicularly, similar advantages are obtained.

Furthermore, although the ball end mill is used as the cutting tool in the aforementioned embodiment, other chamfering tools may be used as long as each of the chamfering tools has 25 a diameter being larger than that of the through hole 3 and

also has a hemispherical cutting part provided at the leading end portion thereof.